

apicem mucronatis pallidis carina viridi trinervi, involuero diphylo altero capitulum subæquante, foliis subulatis brevibus culmoque pubescentibus, vaginis ore barbatis, caryopsi obovato-trigona læviuscula. *Isolepidi barbatae* similis, differre videtur pubescentia et foliis crassioribus, cet.—Madras, Mr. Griffith.

XXXII.—*An Attempt to ascertain the Fauna of Shropshire and North Wales.* By T. C. EYTON, Esq.

[Continued from Mag. of Zool. and Bot., vol. ii. p. 542.]

No. II. *Aves.*

Falco peregrinus, Ray. (Peregrine Falcon.) Not an uncommon bird on the Welsh coast, rearing its young on shelves of rock overhanging the sea. I have never observed nests nearer to one another than two miles. Two or three specimens have occurred in Shropshire. A fine old bird was this winter (1837) procured by John Roche, Esq., near Clungurford. I have several times succeeded in training the young bird (the lanner of Fleming and Pennant,) for hawking pigeons and partridges, and found the process much easier than I could have supposed from the accounts of it given in the older books on the subject; indeed, excepting the treatise by Sir John Sebright, there is not more humbug contained in any description of books than in those on hawking.

The trachea of the Peregrine Falcon is furnished with two pairs of muscles of voice, similar to those described by Mr. Yarrell in the Linnæan Transactions to exist in the Indian crowned pigeon.

Falco Subbuteo, Ray. (Hobby.) Several specimens have occurred near the Stretton hills in Shropshire: all that I have seen have been in the young state of plumage.

Falco Æsalon, Ray. (Merlin.) Rare in Shropshire, but breeds not uncommonly in the neighbourhood of Cader Idris, where the young are generally supposed to be of a different species, and is called the stone Falcon.

Falco Tinnunculus, Ray. (Kestrel.) Common. The kestrel is generally supposed to be the most common of the British hawks; but in the neighbourhood of Eyton, and I believe that most of the gamekeepers in Shropshire will say the same, the sparrow-hawk is decidedly the most common. On the Welsh coast, on the contrary, I have obtained in general about four specimens of the kestrel for one of the sparrow-hawk.

Falco (Menofalco, Cuv.) Islandicus, Linn. (Gyr Falcon.) One of

these rare British birds was killed three or four years ago on Lord Cawdor's estate in Wales.

Aquila Chrysaetos, Linn. (Golden Eagle.) "This kind of eagle sometimes migrates into Caernarvonshire, and there are instances, though rare, of its having bred in the Snowdon hills, from whence some writers give that tract the name of Creigiau'r eryri, or the eagle rocks."—Penn. Brit. Zool.

Falco (*Pandion*, Sav.) *Haliaetos*, Linn. (Osprey.) A fine specimen is in the possession of Burton Borough, Esq., of Chetwynd, Salop, killed a few years ago, while hovering over a pool near that place.

Accipiter fringillarius, Ray. (Sparrow-hawk.) Common.

Milvus regalis, Briss. (Kite.) Formerly common both in this county and in Wales, but is now becoming rare in consequence of the persecution it has undergone from gamekeepers.

Falco Buteo, Sibb. (*Lagopus*, Linn.) (Rough-legged Buzzard.) A specimen is in my collection, killed near Ludlow; and in the edition of Pennant's British Zoology, published in 1812, vol. i. p. 228, will be found a note mentioning a specimen, obtained in Flintshire.

Buteo vulgaris, Sibb. (Common Buzzard.) Common in North Wales; now and then I have observed a solitary one, or a pair, in some of the large woodlands in Shropshire. This species is easily tamed.

Falco (*Circus*, Briss.) *cinereus*, Mont. (Ash-coloured Harrier.) But one of this species has come under my observation, nor have I ever heard of others. The specimen alluded to was killed near Dolgelly.

Falco (*Circus*, Briss.) *Pygargus*, Linn. (Common Harrier.) I have several times observed these birds near Corwen; they have also been observed near Walford by R. A. Slaney, Esq. It is remarkable with what regularity they return to the same beat at the same time for many days together, which propensity often tends to their destruction.

Circus rufus, Briss. (Moor Buzzard.) Common in Wales. This bird takes endless varieties with regard to the colouring of the head, the crown being sometimes of the same colour as the rest of the body, (as in the specimen figured in Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist., which is now in my possession,) and sometimes nearly white.

Otus vulgaris, Flem. (Long-eared Owl.) Though not common, has several times occurred in the district.

Strix (*Otus*, Cuv.) *Brachyotus*, Gmel. (Short-eared Owl.) Tolerably common in Wales, where it is called the Woodcock Owl, from its arriving about the same time with that bird.

Strix flammea, Linn. (Barn Owl.) Common.

Strix (*Syrnium*, Sav.) *stridula*, Linn. (Wood Owl.) Common.

Strix (*Syrnium*, Sav.) *Tengmalmi*, Linn. The bird described by Pennant under the name little owl, does, I believe, belong to this species; he mentions it as having occurred in Flintshire.

Lanius Excubitor, Linn. (Great Shrike.) Only once observed near Capel Curig, North Wales, in the month of May.

Lanius Collurio, Linn. (Red-backed Shrike.) Very common in Wales, particularly near Capel Curig and Barmouth; at the latter place they feed chiefly on insects belonging to the genus *Geotrupes*, which particularly abound. At Capel Curig grasshoppers appear to constitute their chief food: some dozens of them may be seen on the side of the hill above the lakes, which is thinly covered with scattered hawthorn bushes, and abounds with their prey. This species, when taken young, is very easily tamed, and makes a mischievous but amusing pet.

Muscicapa grisola, Ray. (Spotted Fly-catcher.) Common.

Muscicapa atricapilla, Gmel. (Pied Fly-catcher.) The Rev. John Roche, of Clungurford, possesses a specimen of this bird killed near Downton.

Bombycilla Bohemica, Briss. (Bohemian Chatterer.) Four specimens were killed a few years ago by the last-mentioned gentleman, and are now in his possession, beautifully preserved by Mr. Shaw of Shrewsbury. Other specimens have also occurred in the neighbourhood of Oswestry.

Turdus Merula, Linn. (Blackbird.) Common. The white variety has also occurred.

Turdus torquatus, Linn. (Ring-Ousel.) Not uncommon in Wales. I have several times observed them on the Borroyn chain, near Corwen, but never in the valleys or on the tops of the hills; but at a certain elevation, until driven out, they keep themselves closely hid in the fern and heath-bushes. An observation of this kind with regard to elevation was made on a species of thrush inhabiting Java (*T. varius*) by Dr. Horsfield.

Turdus viscivorus, Linn. (Missel Thrush.) Common. This bird among the lower classes in Shropshire is known by the name of the storm cock, from its being said to utter its peculiar chattering note before rain.

Turdus pilaris, Linn. (Fieldfare.) Common. Mr. Selby, in his British Ornithology, states that these birds do not arrive until November in this country. I have observed a flight of them in Shrop-

shire as early as the 20th of September. They occasionally remain as late as the 20th of April.

Turdus iliacus, Linn. (Redwing.) Common. A few of these birds remain in the neighbourhood of Eyton all the summer. In order to place this beyond doubt I have killed several, but have never succeeded in finding their nests: the great bulk of them, however, arrive about the same time as the preceding.

Cinclus aquaticus, Bechst. (Dipper.) Common on most rocky rivers in the district.

Motacilla (Saxicola, Bechst.) Rubicola, Linn. (Stone-chat.) Common in Wales, particularly in the neighbourhood of Holyhead: not nearly so abundant in Shropshire.

Motacilla (Saxicola, Bechst.) Rubetra, Linn. (Whin-chat.) Common during the summer months in Shropshire, where it is called the utich or hutic.

Motacilla (Saxicola, Bechst.) Œnanthe, Linn. (Wheat-ear.) Rather rare in the district; all that I have observed have been in September, probably during their migration.

Motacilla (Ficedula, Bechst.) Rubecula, Linn. (Red-breast.) Common.

Motacilla (Philomela, Sw.) Luscinia, Linn. (Nightingale.) Frequent during summer the southern border of the district: I cannot trace them further northward than the Wrekin.

Sylvia (Salicaria, Selby.) arundinacea, Lath. (Reed Warbler.) Common.

Sylvia (Salicaria, Selby.) Phragmitis, Bechst. (Sedge Warbler.) Not so common as the preceding.

Motacilla (Curruca, Briss.) Atricapilla, Linn. (Blackcap.) Common.

Sylvia (Curruca, Briss.) cinerea, Lath. (Greater White-throat.) Common. Arrives generally during the first fortnight in April.

Curruca garrula, Briss. (Lesser White-throat.) Somewhat rare, but I have always observed a few specimens in the neighbourhood of Eyton before the leaves appear, and generally before the arrival of the greater white-throat.

Motacilla (Accentor, Bechst.) modularis, Linn. (Hedge Sparrow.) Common.

Sylvia (Regulus, Cuv.) ignicapilla, Brehm. (Fire-crested Wren.) Rare; but two or three specimens have been observed.

Regulus aurocapillus, Selby. (Gold-crested Wren.) Common.

Sylvia (Sylvicola, nob.) sibilatrix, Bechst. (Yellow Wren.) Ar-

rives in Salop generally during the last week in April: not so common as the two following.

Sylvia (Sylvicola, nob.) Trochilus, Lath. (Willow Wren.) Common: arrives generally before the last-mentioned species.

Sylvia (Sylvicola, nob.) rufa, Lath. (Chiff-Chaff.) Common, and arrives about the same time with the last. The three last-mentioned species are difficult to distinguish: the only constant character appears to be the sloping of the quill-feathers, given in Jenyns' Manual of British Vertebrata.

Troglodytes Europæus, Steph. (Wren.) Common.

Motacilla alba, Linn. (White Wagtail.) Common.

Motacilla (Budytes, Cuv.) flava, Linn. (Yellow Wagtail.) Common: generally observed to arrive about the 29th of April.

Motacilla (Budytes, Cuv.) Boarula, Linn. (Grey Wagtail.) Common: departs about the end of March, and arrives in September.

Alda (Anthus, Bechst.) trivialis, Linn. (Pipit Lark.) Occasionally met with near Eyton, but not commonly.

Alda (Anthus, Bechst.) pratensis, Linn. (Tit Lark.) Very common during the winter months, in company with wagtails on flooded meadows.

Anthus aquaticus, Bechst. (Rock Lark.) Found in the neighbourhood of Holyhead, particularly between the town and the South Stack lighthouse, where it may be seen hopping about in search of small marine animals on stones which the sea has just left.

Alda arvensis, Linn. (The Lark.) Common.

Alda arborea, Linn. (Wood Lark.) I have never observed this species in the neighbourhood of Eyton, but near Walford it is not uncommon, remaining all the year.

Parus major, Linn. (Great Titmouse.) Common.

Parus ater, Linn. (Cole Tit.) Common.

Parus palustris, Linn. (Marsh Tit.) Common.

Parus cæruleus, Linn. (Blue Tit.) Common.

Parus caudatus, Linn. (Long-tailed Tit.) The singular provincial name of Huggen muffin is attached to this bird.

Emberiza Citrinella, Linn. (Yellow-hammer.) Equally common everywhere. Specimens obtained in Anglesey, near Holyhead, were of a much brighter yellow than those obtained at the same time of year in Shropshire.

Emberiza Schaniculius, Linn. (Reed Bunting.) Common.

Emberiza Miliaria, Linn. (Great Bunting.) Common.

Fringilla (Pyrgita, Cuv.) domestica, Linn. (Sparrow.) Common.

Fringilla (Pyrgita, Cuv.) montana, Linn. (Mountain Sparrow.)

Rare in the district, but occasionally seen in the neighbourhood of Walford.

Fringilla Cælebs, Linn. (Chaffinch.) Common.

Fringilla Montifringilla, Linn. (Brambling.) Occurs regularly, but sparingly, in Shropshire, during the winter months, frequenting beech trees, and feeding on the mast.

Carduelis aurata, nob. (Goldfinch.) Common.

Fringilla (*Linaria*, Bechst.) *Spinus*, Linn. (Siskin.) Found commonly in Shropshire during winter; frequenting the tops of alder trees, on the seed of which it feeds, in company with the lesser redpole.

Fringilla (*Linaria*, Bechst.) *borealis*, Roux. *Linaria canescens*, Gould. (Mealy Redpole.) At different times, I have obtained several specimens of this bird in Shropshire, but have never observed them in large flights, the utmost number I have ever seen together being ten or twelve, in company with the siskin, in which points they differ in habit from both the greater and lesser redpoles.

Fringilla (*Linaria*, Bechst.) *flavirostris*, Linn. (Lesser Redpole.) Common in winter, in company with the siskin, and feeding in the same manner.

Fringilla (*Linaria*, Bechst.) *cannabina*, Linn. (Greater Redpole.) Common.

Fringilla (*Linaria*, Bechst.) *Montium*, Gmel. (Mountain Linnet.) Occasionally found in Shropshire: common in North Wales, where it breeds, making its nest on the ground under the shelter of some furze bush or tuft of grass.

Loxia (*Coccothraustes*, Briss.) *Chloris*, Linn. (Greenfinch.) Common.

Loxia (*Coccothraustes*, Briss.) *vulgaris*, Flem. (Grosbeak.) A regular winter visitant, frequenting fir trees in the neighbourhood of Hawkstone and elsewhere, and often seen in company with the crossbill.

Pyrrhula vulgaris, Temm. (Bullfinch.) Common.

Loxia curvirostra, Linn. (Crossbill.) Occasionally found on fir and pine trees, during the autumn and winter months, particularly such as stand high, as in those of Hawkstone and Pimhill: arrives in September.

Sturnus vulgaris, Linn. (Starling.) Common. I have at different times seen many starlings, with their upper and lower mandibles crossed; one is in my collection: they have all been birds taken from the nest. *Query*. Does not a tendency to this monstrosity show an affinity to the crossbills?

Turdus (Pastor, Temm.) roseus, Linn. (Rose Ousel.) A beautiful male specimen of this very rare British bird was killed three or four years ago in the garden behind the hotel at Holyhead, where it had been observed for a day or two before; its habits were described by the gardener as being like those of the thrush: the preserved skin is in the possession of Captain Stephens, formerly of that place, who kindly permitted me to inspect it.

Corvus (Fregilus, Cuv.) Graculus, Linn. (Chough.) Found commonly on all the bold headlands of the Welsh coast. I have several times procured young ones and tamed them: they are exceedingly amusing, though very mischievous, stealing everything they can carry off. I never, although they made all sorts of odd noises, succeeded in teaching one of them to articulate clearly any sound: they were particularly fond of cheese, attacking any nest of mites whenever they could find their road to the cupboard: they learned to know the servants' dinner hour, and if not admitted would rap at the window with their strong bills, much to the danger of the glass. During winter, in their wild state, they proceed some distance into the country, often accompanying flights of rooks and jackdaws; but during summer I have never observed them far from the sea-coast.

Corvus Monedula, Linn. (Jackdaw.) Common.

Corvus frugilegus, Linn. (Rook.) Common.

Corvus Corax, Linn. (Raven.) Often observed in Wales: a few pair breed in Shropshire, and have been known to build in the same trees from time immemorial, in spite of the nest being robbed every year.

Corvus Corone, Linn. (Crow.) Common.

Corvus Cornix, Linn. (Hooded or Royston Crow.) A few years ago I obtained one of these birds during winter by setting a trap near a dead sheep: this is the only instance I know of its occurrence.

Pica caudata, Will. (Magpie.) Common during winter. More than two or three of these birds are seldom seen together; but in March and April, after they have built their nests, I have observed flights of forty and fifty roost in the same plantation.

Corvus (Garrulus, Briss.) glandarius, Linn. (Jay.) Common. I have several times observed that if the nest of this bird be found and the eggs touched or disturbed, they are sure shortly to disappear. Query. Are they carried off by the bird to some safer situation?

Corvus (Nucifraga, Briss.) Caryocatactes, Linn. (Nut-cracker.) The only specimen that I know of, obtained in the district, is one mentioned in Pennant's 'British Zoology,' killed near Mostyn in Flintshire, October 5, 1753.

Hirundo (Cypselus, Ill.) Apus, Linn. (Swift.) Common.

Hirundo urbica, Linn. (House Martin.) Common : arrives about the same time with the swallow.

Hirundo rustica, Linn. (Swallow.) Common : arrives generally about the 20th of April, but I have observed one or two earlier.

Hirundo riparia, Linn. (Sand Martin.) Common : arrives the first of the swallow tribe, generally about the 10th, or from that to the 15th, of April.

Caprimulgus Europæus, Linn. (Goat-sucker.) Common in North Wales ; not very common in Salop.

Sitta Europæa, Linn. (Nuthatch.) Common.

Certhia familiaris, Linn. (Creeper.) Common.

Upupa Epops, Ray. (Hoopoe.) One individual of this species was observed near the Black Bushes, Salop, four or five years ago, and shortly afterwards one was killed in the neighbourhood, probably the same : it is now in the collection of Sir Andrew Tobit, Bart.

Alcedo Ispida, Ray. (Kingfisher.) Common. A short time ago, having placed a net partially over a small bait pool, stocked with minnows, to defend them from the herons, a kingfisher got entangled on the under side of it, and was drowned in the heat of the chase : he must have gone two or three inches under water in order to get round the edge of the net.

Picus viridis, Ray. (Green Woodpecker.) Common.

Picus major, Linn. (Greater Spotted Woodpecker.) Not so common as the other two species.

Picus minor, Linn. (Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.) Common at Nesscliff and Hawkstone.

Cuculus canorus, Linn. (Cuckoo.) Common, arriving about the 10th of May. I once obtained a young one as late as the end of September.

Tetrao Tetrix, Linn. (Black Game.) Found in most of the extensive heaths of Shropshire : has been introduced on the Beswyn chain near Corwen, but appears to decrease in numbers.

Tetrao (Lagopus, Vieill.) Scoticus, Lath. (Red Grouse.) Common on the Welsh mountains, and also on the Stiperstones in Shropshire.

Perdix cinerea, Ray. (Partridge.) Common : the partridges found on the Welsh mountains are of a smaller size than those of Shropshire.

Coturnix vulgaris, Flem. (Quail.) In former times appears to have been met with rather commonly in Shropshire by sportsmen in September, but of late years rarely. I once saw a bevy of nine near Eyton.

Columba Palumbus, Linn. (Wood Pigeon Quice.) Common during the winter months, doing great mischief to the young clover by feeding on it, picking out the green leaves in the centre of each bunch.

Columba Œnas, Ray. (Stock Dove.) Common.

Turtur auritus, Ray. (Turtle Dove.) Breeds in Shropshire, where it is called the Wrekin dove.

XXXIII.—*A Reply to Mr. Ogilby's Communication to the Annals of Natural History respecting Phalangista Cookii.*
By J. E. GRAY, Esq., F.R.S., Senior Assistant in the Zoological Department of the British Museum.

My dear Sir,

IN replying to Mr. Ogilby's communication in your last Number I will not suffer myself to be betrayed into the use of acrimonious expressions, which are unsuited to scientific discussions, and serve only to irritate, and which I should regret the moment they were written. The only purport of this note is to explain, in as few words as possible, my impressions relative to the material facts adverted to in the communication to which I refer.

The scientific objects of that communication are two in number; first, Mr. Ogilby contends that my name of *Antelope Zebra* should yield to that of *A. Doria* previously published by him; and on this point, as your readers are already aware, we are agreed:—secondly, Mr. Ogilby maintains that the name of *Phalangista Cookii* should be applied to the animal discovered by Sir Joseph Banks in Cook's first voyage, instead of that figured and described by Captain Cook himself. On this we differ; but I know not why this difference of opinion should give rise to angry feelings, or lead to the imputation of unworthy motives.

As regards the first point, it is scarcely necessary to do more than refer to the note which you have already printed (p. 221). I may state, however, that when my description of the two more perfect specimens of the antelope in question, then in my possession, was printed in the Annals, I was quite unconscious that Mr. Ogilby had published anything on the subject. Mr. Bennett had described the original specimen as "obtained by Mr. Gould from Algoa Bay," and had indicated his opinion of its relations in the following terms: "The quality of the fur is rather rigid, and the hairs are adpressed,